His Majesties GRACIOUS SPEECH TO THE LORDS & COMMONS,

Together with the Lord

CHANCELLOR'S,

At the opening of the

PARLIAMENT,

On the eight day of *May*, 1661.

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HIS MAJESTIES GRACIOUS SPEECH TO THE LORDS & COMMONS,

At the opening of the PARLIAMENT, On the 8th day of *May*, 1661.

My Lords, and Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I Will not ſpend the time in telling you why I called you hither; I am ſure I am very glad for to ſee you here; I do value my ſelf much upon keeping my Word, upon making good whatſoever I promiſe to my Subjects: And I well remember when I was laſt in this place, I promiſed that I would call a Parliament as ſoon as could be reaſonably expected or deſired; And truly, conſidering the ſeaſon of the year, and all that hath been done ſince we parted, you could not reaſonably expect to meet ſooner then now we do: If it might have been a week ſooner, you will confeſs there was ſome reaſon to defer it to this day; for this day, we may without ſuperſtition love one day, prefer one day before another, for the memory of ſome bleſsing that befell us that day, and then you will not wonder that the memory of the great affection the whole Kingdom ſhewed to me this day Twelve-moneth, made me deſirous to meet you again this day, when I dare ſwear you are full of the ſame ſpirit, and that it will be laſting in you; I think there are not many of you who are not particularly known to me; there are very few of whom I have not heard ſo much good, that I am as ſure as I can be of any thing that is to come, that

you will all concur with me, and that I shall concur with you in all things which may advance the Peace, Plenty, and Prosperity of the Nation, I shall be exceedingly deceived else.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

You will find what method I think best for your proceeding, by two Bills which I have caused to be prepared for you, which are for confirmation of all that was Enacted at our last meeting; And above all, I must repeat what I said when I was last here;

That, next to the miraculous blessing of God Almighty, and indeed, as an immediate effect of that blessing, I do impute the good disposition and security we are all in, to the happy Act of *Indempnity* and *Oblivion*; that is the principal Corner-stone, which supports this excellent Building, that creates kindness in us to each other, and confidence is our joynt and common security.

I am sure I am still of the same opinion, and more, if it be possible, of that opinion, then I was, by the experience I have of the benefit of it, and from the unreasonableness of what some men say against it; though I assure you not in my hearing. In Gods name provide full Remedies for any future Mischiefs, be as severe as you will against new Offenders, especially if they be so upon old Principles, and pull up those Principles by the Roots: But I shall never think him a wise man, who would endeavour to undermine or shake that Foundation of Our Publick Peace, by infringing that Act in the least degree; or that he can be My friend, or wish Me well, who would perswade Me ever to consent to the breach of a Promise I so solemnly made when I was abroad, and performed with that solemnity; because, after I promised it, I cannot suspect any attempts of that kinde by any men of Merit and Vertue.

I will not conclude without telling you some News; News, that I think will be very acceptable to you; and therefore I should think my self unkinde and ill-natured, if I should not im-

part it to you. I have been often put in minde by My friends, that it was high time to marry; and I have thought so My self ever since I came into England: But there appeared difficulties enough in the Choice, though many overtures have been made to Me; and if I should never marry till I could make such a Choice, against which there could be no foresight of any inconvenience that may insue, you would live to see Me an old Batchelor, which I think you do not desire to do. I can now tell you, not onely that I am resolved to marry, but whom I resolve to marry, if God please: And towards my resolution, I have used that deliberation, and taken that advice as I ought to do in an Affair of that importance; and trust Me, with a full consideration of the good of My Subjects in general, as of My self; It is with the Daughter of Portugal. When I had, as well as I could, weighed all that occurred to Me, the first Resolution I took, was to state the whole Overtures which had been made to Me, and in truth, all that had been said against it to my Privy Council; without hearing whose advice, I never did, nor ever will resolve any thing of Publick importance: And I tell you with great satisfaction and comfort to My self (that after many hours debate in a full Councel) for I think there was not above one absent; and truly I believe, upon weighing all that can be said upon that subject for or against it, My Lords, without one dissenting Voice, yet there were very few sat silent, advised Me with all imaginable cheerfulness to this Marriage, which I looked upon as very wonderfull, and even as some instance of the Approbation of God himself; and so took My own resolution, and concluded all with the Ambassador of Portugal, who is departing with a whole Treaty signed, which you will find to contain many great advantages to the Kingdom; and I make all the haste I can, to fetch you a Queen hither, who I doubt not will bring great Blessings with Her to Me and you. I will add no more, but refer the rest to the Chancellor.

(After

(After His Majesty had finished, the Lord Chancellor spake as followeth.)

My Lords, and you the Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses, of the House of Commons,

THe King hath called you hither by His Writ, to assist Him with your Information and Advice in the greatest and weightiest Affairs of the Kingdom: By His Writ, which is the onely good and lawfull way to the meeting of a Parliament; and the pursuing that Writ, the remembring how and why they came together, is the onely way to bring a happy end to Parliaments; there was no such Writ as this, no such Presence as this, in the year 1649. when this unhappy Kingdom was dishonoured and exposed to the mirth and reproach of their Neighbours in the Government of a Commonwealth; There was no such Writ as this, no such Presence as this, in *December* 1653. when that Infant-Commonwealth, when the three Kingdoms of *England*, *Scotland* and *Ireland*, and the Dominions thereunto belonging, were delivered up into the bloody and mercilesse hands of a devouring Protector, and sacrificed to his Lust and Appetite; There was no such Writ as this, no such Presence as this, in the year 1656. when that Protector was more solemnly invested and installed, and the Liberty of the three Nations submitted to his absolute Tyranny by *The humble Petition and Advice*. When people came together by such exorbitant means, it is no wonder that their Consultations and Conclusions were so disproportioned from any Rules of Justice or Sobriety: God be thanked that he hath reserved us to this day, a day that many good men have died praying for, that after all those prodigies in Church and State, we have lived to see the King at the opening of the Parliament. That we have lived to see our King Anointed and Crowned by the hands of an Archbishop, as His Predecessors have been; and that we are come hither this day in obedience to His Writ.

The King tells you, He hath caused a Bill or two to be prepared for the Confirmation of all that was Enacted in the last Parliament, and commends the dispatch of those to you, with some earnestnesse. The truth is, it is a great part of the businesse of this Parliament to celebrate the memory of the last, by confirming or re-enacting all that was done by that Parliament; which though it was not called by

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the King's Writ, may be reasonably thought to have been called by God himself, upon the Supplication and Prayer of the King, and the whole Nation, as the only means to restore the Nation to its Happinesse, to its Self, to its Honor, and even to its Innocence. How glad the King was of it, appears by what He writ to them from *Breda*, when He referred more to them then ever was referred to Parliament: He referred in truth (upon the matter) all that concerned Himself, all that concerned Religion, all that concerned the Peace and Happinesse of the Kingdom to them: And to their Honor be it spoken, and to their Honor be it ever remembred, That the King, Religion, and the Kingdom, have no reason to be sorry that so much was intrusted to them; nor they to be ashamed of the discharge of their trust. It would have been a very unseasonable scruple in any man, who should have refused to bear his part in the excellent transactions of that Parliament, because he was not called thither by the King's Writ; and it would be a more unreasonable scruple now, in any man, after we have all received the fruit and benefit of their Councels and Conclusions, when in truth we ow our orderly and regular meeting at this time to their extraordinary meeting then, to their wisdom in laying hold upon the Kings Promises, and to the Kings Justice in performing all he promised, and to the Kingdoms submission, and acquiescence in those promises. I say it would be very unseasonable, and unreasonable now to endeavour to shake that Foundation, which if you will take the King's Judgment, supports the whole Fabrick of our Peace and Security. He tells you what he shall think of any who goes about to undermine that Foundation, which is a Zeal no Prince could be transported with but Himself; it might have seemed enough for a King who had received so many injuries, so hardly to be forgotten, undergone so many losses so impossible to be repaired, to have been willing to confirm, and to reenact the *Act of Oblivion and Indempnity*, when you should present it to Him; but to prepare such an Act for you, to conjure you by all that is precious by your friendship to him, to dispatch those Acts with expedition; is such a peece of Fatherly Tenderneſse and Piety, as could proceed from no heart, but such a One, in which God hath treasured up a stock of Mercy, and Justice, and Wisdom, to redeem a Nation. And truly, my Lords and Gentlemen, for our selves, if we'll consider how much we ow to those, who with all the

Faculties

Faculties of their Soul contributed to, and contrived the bleſſed change, the reſtoring the King to His People, and His People to the King; and then how much we ow to thoſe who gave no oppoſition to the virtuous activity of the other, (and God knows a little oppoſition might have done much harm) whether we look upon the Publick, or upon our own private Provocations, there will remain ſo few who do not deſerve to be forgiven by us, that we may very well ſubmit to the Kings Advice, and His Example; of whom we may very juſtly ſay, as a very good *Hiſtorian* ſaid of a very great Emperor; and I am ſure, it could never be ſo truly ſaid of any Emperor as of ours, *Facere recte Cives ſuos, Princeps optimus faciendo docet; cumq; ſit Imperio maximus, exemplo major eſt.* Nor indeed hath He yet given us, or have we yet felt any other inſtances of His Greatneſſe, and Power, and Superiority, and Dominion over us, *Niſi* (as he ſaid) *aut levatione periculi, aut acceſſione dignitatis*, by giving us Peace, Honor, and Security, which we could not have without Him, by deſiring nothing for Himſelf, but what is as good for us, as for Himſelf; and therefore I hope we ſhall make no ſcruple of obeying Him in this particular.

My Lords and Gentlemen, Though the laſt Parliament did great and wonderfull things indeed, as much as in that time they could, yet they have left very great things for you to do. You are to finiſh the Structure, of which they but laid the Foundation; indeed they left ſome things undone, which it may be they thought they had finiſhed. You will finde the Revenue they intended to raiſe for the King, very much ſhort of what they promiſed: You will finde the Publick Debts for the diſcharge of the Army and the Navy, which they thought they had provided for ſufficiently, to be ſtill in arrear and unpaid. And here I am by the King's ſpecial command, to commend the poor Seamen to you, who by the Rules which were preſcribed for their payment, are in a much worſe condition, then, without queſtion, was forſeen they would be; for by appointing them to be paid but from 1658. (which was a ſafe rule to the Army) very many are ſtill in arrear for two, three, or four years ſervice; and ſo His Majeſties promiſe to them from *Breda* remains unperformed. Some other loſſes which reſulted from other Rules given for their payment, have been ſupplied to them by the King's own bounty. They are a people very worthy of your particular care and cheriſhing,

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upon whose courage and fidelity, very much of the Happinesse, and Honor, and Security of the Nation depends; and therefore His Majesty doubts not you will see Justice done towards them with favour.

My Lords and Gentlemen, You are now the great Physitians of the Kingdom, and God knows you have many wayward, and froward, and distempered Patients; Patients who are in truth very sick, and Patients who think themselves sicker then they are; and some who think themselves in health, and are most sick of all. You must therefore use all the diligence, and patience, and compassion, which good Physitians have for their Patients; all the Chearfulnesse, and Complacency, and Indulgence, their several Habits, and Constitutions, and Distempers of Body and Minde may require: Be not too Melansholick with your Patients, nor suffer them to be too Melancholick, by believing that every little distemper will presently turn to a violent Feaver, and that Feaver will presently turn to the Plague; That every little trespas, every little swarving from the known Rule, must insensibly grow to a neglect of the Law, and that neglect as insensibly introduce an absolute confusion; that every little difference, in Opinion or Practice, in Conscience or Religion, must presently destroy Conscience and Religion: Be not too severe and rough towards your Patients in prescribing Remedies, how well compounded soever, too nauseous and offensive to their stomacks and appetite, or to their very fancy; allay and correct those humors which corrupt their stomacks and their appetites: If the good old known tryed Laws be for the present too heavy for their necks, which have been so many years without any Yoke at all, make a temporary provision of any easier and a lighter Yoke, till by living in a wholesomer air, by the benefit of a soberer Conversation, by keeping a better Dyet, by the experience of a good and just Government, they recover strength enough to bear, and discretion enough to discern the benefit and the ease of those Laws they disliked. If the present Oaths have any terms or expressions in them, that a tender Conscience honestly makes scruple of submitting to, in Gods name, let other Oaths be formed in their places, as comprehensive of all those Obligations which the Policy of Government must exact; but still let there be a Yoke, let there be an Oath, let there be some Law that may be the Rule to that Indulgence, that under pretence of Liberty of Conscience men may not be absolved from all the Obligations of Law and Conscience.

I have beſought your good nature and indulgence towards ſome of your weak Patients, if by it they can be brought to follow and ſubmit to your preſcriptions for their health; nor is it reaſonable to imagine, that the diſtempers of twenty years can be rectified and ſubdued in twelve moneths, there muſt be a natural time, and natural applications allowed for it: But there are a ſort of your Patients that I muſt recommend to your utmoſt vigilance, utmoſt ſeverity, and to no part of your lenity or indulgence; ſuch who are ſo far from valuing your preſcriptions, that they look not upon you as their Phiſitians, but their Patients; ſuch who inſtead of repenting any thing that they have done amiſs, repeat every day the ſame crimes, for the Imdempnity whereof the Act of Oblivion was provided. Theſe are the ſeditious Preachers who cannot be contented to be diſpenſed with for their full obedience to ſome Laws eſtabliſhed, without reproaching and inveighing againſt thoſe Laws, how eſtabliſhed ſoever; who tell their Auditories, that the Apoſtle meant when he bid them ſtand to their Liberties, that they ſhould ſtand to their Arms, and who by repeating the very expreſſions, and teaching the very Doctrine they ſet on foot, in the year, 1640. ſufficiently declare, that they have no minde that twenty years ſhould put an end to the miſeries we have undergon.

What good Chriſtian can think without horror of theſe Miniſters of the Goſpel, who by their Function ſhould be Meſſengers of Peace, and are in their practice the only Trumpets of War and Incendiaries towards Rebellion? How much more Chriſtian was that *Athenian* Nun in *Plutarch*, and how ſhall ſhe riſe up in judgement againſt theſe men, who when *Alcibiades* was condemned by the Publick juſtice of the State, and a Decree made, that the Religious, the Prieſts and the Nuns ſhould revile and curſe him, ſtoutly refuſed to perform that Office, ſaying, that ſhe was profeſſed Religious, to pray and to bleſſe, not to curſe and ban. And if the Perſon and the Place can improve and aggravate the Offence, as no doubt it doth, both before God and man, me thinks the Preaching Rebellion and Treaſon out of the Pulpit, ſhould be as much worſe then the advancing it in the Market, as poyſoning a man at the Communion would be worſe then killing him at a Tavern; And it may be in the Catalogue of thoſe Sins which the zeal of ſome men declares to be againſt the Holy Ghoſt, there may not be any one more reaſonably

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thought to be ſuch, then a Miniſter of Chriſt's turning Rebel againſt his Prince, which is a moſt notorious Apoſtacy from his Order, and his preaching Rebellion to the People, as the Doctrine of Chriſt, adding Blaſphemy and Pertinacie to his Apoſtacie, hath all the marks by which good men are taught to know and avoid that Sin againſt the Holy Ghoſt: If you do not provide for the thorow quenching theſe Fire-brands, King, Lords and Commons ſhall be their meaneſt Subjects, and the whole Kingdom kindled into one general Flame.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

When the King ſpake laſt in this place before this day, He ſaid, When He ſhould call the next Parliament, He ſhould receive their thanks for what He had done ſince He had diſſolved the laſt; for He ſaid He ſhould not more propoſe any one rule to Himſelf in His Actions or His Councels, then this: *What is a Parliament like to think of this Action, or of that Counſel? and that it ſhould be want of underſtanding in Him, if it would not bear that teſt:* He told you but now, That He values Himſelf much upon keeping His Word, upon performing all that He promiſes to His People; and He hath the worſt luck in the world, if He hath not complied with this promiſe, and if His underſtanding hath failed Him in it. It was in a very little time after the diſſolution of that Parliament, His Majeſty giving Himſelf a few dayes to accompany His Royal Mother to the Sea-ſide, (the onely time He hath ſlept out of this Town near this Twelve-moneth,) that the moſt deſperate and prodigious Rebellion brake out in this City, that hath been heard of in any age, which continued two or three nights together, with the Murder of ſeveral honeſt Citizens; let no man undervalue the Treaſon becauſe of the contemptibleneſſe of the number ingaged in it; no man knows the number, but by the multitude of intercepted Letters from and to all the Counties of *England*, in which the time was ſet down wherein the work of the Lord was to be done, by the deſperate carriage of the Traytors themſelves, and their bragging of their friends, we may conclude the combination reached very far, and in truth we may reaſonably believe, that if the undaunted courage, and indefatigable induſtry of the Lord Mayor of *London*, who deſerves to be mentioned before King, Lords and Commons, and to be eſteemed by them, had not prevented it: I ſay, it is probable this fury would not have been extinguiſhed, before this famous City, or a great part of it had

been burned to ashes. If you enquire what the King did upon this unheard of provocation, what vengeance he took upon those, whose professed and avowed principle was, not to distinguish between him and another man, nay to kill him sooner then any other man, you will finde, as was said of *Cæsar*, that *Libentius vitam victor jam daret, quam victi acciperent*, That His mercy hath been no lesse obstinate, then their malice and wickednesse, that few persons have suffered, and that He hath restrained the Law from being severe to many, who at the same time continue their guilt, and undervalue His compassion; That there hath not been a week since that time, in which there have not been Combinations and Conspiracies formed against His Person, and against the Peace of the Kingdom, which before this time would have taken effect, if God had not put it into the hearts of some who were trusted in the Counsels, to discover the designs time enough for prevention, and upon all these Alarms, and the interception of such Letters, as would in all other Countries have produced the Rack for further discoveries, and under the late Government in this, would have erected High Courts of Justice for their punishment, he hath left the Offenders to His Judges of the Law, and those Judges to the precise forms, and ordinary rules of the Law.

My Lords and Gentlemen, If the new licence and corruption of this time hath exceeded the wickednesse of former Ages, that the old Laws have not enough provided for the punishment of wickednesse, they could not foresee or imagine, it will become your Wisdoms to provide new remedies for new diseases, and to secure the precious Person of our Dear Soveraign, from the first approaches of Villany, and the Peace of the Kingdom from the first overtures of Sedition: If you will not provide Laws to do it, the King will not do any thing extraordinary even towards his own preservation.

You see the Rule by which he hath walked, and as he hath made good His promise to you, so I doubt not you will make good His Prophecy, and that He shall receive thanks for what He hath done since He was last here. He hath told you now what He hath done, That He is resolved to Marry, and resolved whom to Marry; which, I believe, is the most gratefull news that the whole

Kingdom

Kingdom hath longed for, or could receive from the first day of his landing here; and when they shall know the great deliberation He hath used before that Resolution, and the circumstances in resolving it, they will surely have cause to confesse, that never King in the disposal of himself in Marriage, took so great care for the good and felicity of His People. Within a very short time after His landing in this Kingdom, He was moved by the Ambassador of *Portugal* to renew a Treaty, lately made between that Crown and the Usurper; a Treaty in very many respects the most advantageous to this Nation, that ever was entered into with any Prince or People; a Treaty by which, at this time, that Crown is paying the penalty, (which the Usurper exacted from it) for the most Heroick and Noble Act of Honour and Friendship performed by that King to our Master, that ever was performed by any Prince towards another Prince in distress; And yet the King was nothing forward to ratifie this Treaty, though it is very true, every Article in it, but one, was entirely for the benefit of this Nation, for the extraordinary advancement of Trade, for the good of Religion, and for the honour of the Crown; yet there was One, One single Article that must oblige the King, as it did oblige the Usurper, to supply *Portugal* with an Army for His assistance when He should require it; that is, That *Portugal* should have power to make Levies of ten thousand men for their service: This the King fore-saw might produce a War with *Spain*, which He was very unwilling to undergo that Engagement; and yet His Council represented unto Him how heart-breaking a thing it would be to His People to lose the possession of so great a Trade, and those other immense Advantages they had by that Treaty; and that would be judged an irrecoverable Errour in Policy, if *Portugal* should be suffered again to be swallowed up by *Spain*. However, the King was resolved not precipitately to engage Himself in such a Treaty as might be attended with such an inconvenience, but to take time fully to consider of it; and this Delay the *Portugal* could not be pleased with, and so the Ambassador returned home to his Master.

About this time the House of Commons sent up a Bill to the Lords for the annexing *Dunkirk* and *Jamaica* to the Crown of *England*; which seemed to have the most universal consent and

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approbation from the whole Nation, that ever any Bill could be attended with; yet the ſame conſideration which retarded the Treaty with *Portugal*, made the King leſs warm towards the advancing of that Bill: And the Spaniſh Ambaſſadour was as ſolicitous to obſtruct it, as he hath been ſince to obſtruct the Match with *Portugal*. This being the Caſe, and the *Portugal* Ambaſſadour returning with ſuch particular Overtures to the King for a Marriage with the Daughter of that Crown, that both in reſpect of Portion and many other tranſcendent Advantages for the advancement of the Trade and Empire of this Kingdom, the like hath not been offered in this Age: And His Majeſty having received as full information and ſatisfaction in the beauty and excellency of that renowned Princeſs, as can be had without a perſonal Interview, (a circumſtance very rarely admitted to Princes) it was not in His Majeſties power to be without ſome approbation and inclination to this Allyance: Yet even then He would not truſt Himſelf in this great Affair, which ſo nearly and ſo dearly concerns Himſelf, and Himſelf above all others; though the benefit and advantage could but appear the ſame upon further Conſultation, yet there might poſſibly be ſome miſchiefs, or ſome inconveniencies diſcerned which He had not fore-ſeen: He reſolves therefore to call His Council, tells them ſome dayes before, that He had an Affair of great importance to impart to them, and to receive their advice in; and therefore appointed an extraordinary day, that they might all appear, (and truly, I think there was but one Lord abſent, who was then indiſpoſ'd in his health) In this Council He ſtated the whole Matter, all that was offered of benefit and advantage, all that occurr'd of hazard or inconvenience, without the leaſt diſcovery of His own inclinations further then that you would have believed He had ſeen the Picture of His Miſtriſs, it having been a ſpeech He hath often accuſtomed Himſelf to, That He would not marry a Woman He had not ſome reaſon to believe He could love, though ſhe could bring Him the Empire of the World. He did not conceal from My Lords what the Spaniſh Ambaſſadour had offered againſt this Marriage, (who is not over-reſerved in giving Counſel, nor in communicating the Counſel He gives) what profers He had made of others, what Threats of War in one caſe, what advantage of Dowry in another; that he is ſo ſolicitous for the advancement

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of the Proteſtant Religion, that he had offered ſeveral Proteſtant Princeſſes, to whom his Maſter ſhall give a Portion, as with the *Infanta* of *Spain*: And truly leſs then the Univerſal Monarch could not diſpoſe of ſo many Princeſſes, without the leaſt Conſent or Privity of their own. His Majeſty commanded all my Lords to deliver their Counſel and Advice freely, upon a full Proſpect of what might appear good and happy for His People, as well as for Himſelf; aſſuring them, as He hath done you now this day, That as He never did, ſo He never will do any thing of great importance without conſulting with them. You will believe that my Lords of the Council are ſolicitous enough for the advancement of the Proteſtant Religion, upon which the welfare of this Kingdom ſo much depends: But they were very apprehenſive that the firſt Proteſtant Daughter that ever any King of *Spain* had, would not probably bring ſo great Advantages to it, as was pretended.

They have no minde to encourage the King to a War, we have had War enough; but they do not think He ſhould ſo much fear a War, as out of the dread of it to be at the diſpoſal of any other Prince, and that when He hath freed His own Subjects from Wardſhips, and from Liveries, that He ſhould Himſelf become a Ward to the King of *Spain*, and not marry without his Approbation and Conſent: They obſerved, that in the ſame Memorials (I do not mean that which he laſt Printed, but a former) in which the Spaniſh Ambaſſador threatens War, if the King marries with *Portugal*; He preſſeth very earneſtly the delivering up of *Dunkirk* and *Jamaica*; and it is plain enough he would have that recompence for the portion he would give; and in truth, whoever is againſt the match with *Portugal*, is for the delivery of *Dunkirk* and *Jamaica*, a War being as ſure to follow from the latter, as from the former, and from neither, till the King of *Spain* findes it convenient for himſelf, which I hope he will not yet do. I will not inlarge upon the many Reaſons, the King hath told you the concluſion: There was never a more unanimous Advice from any Council, not one diſſenting voice in the beſeeching His Majeſty to make this marriage, and to finiſh it with all the expedition imaginable. Upon this He ſent for the *Portugal* Ambaſſador, declared His reſolution to him, hath writ Himſelf to *Portugal*, and is preparing His Fleet to fetch home our Queen. And

I hope now He hath deſerved all your thanks, both for the Matter and the Manner, and that not onely our ſelves, but the Ages that are to ſucceed us, ſhall have cauſe to bleſſe God and His Majeſty for this reſolution that He hath taken, and that He hath declared to us this day, and hath reſerved for this day, having obliged His Council to ſecrecy, that He might Himſelf communicate it to His whole Kingdom at once.

There are ſome other particulars of weight, but He will not mingle them with this great important one, which muſt ſo much fill your hearts and your heads, but will reſerve them till he ſees you again, after you have choſen your *Speaker*, which he now leaves you to do, and to repair to your Houſe for that purpoſe, that you may preſent your *Speaker* unto Him at four of the clock upon Friday.

FINIS.